

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

TOWN COUNCIL.

BIDS FOR BROKEN STONE FOR ROADS REJECTED.

Councilmen thought the price asked was too high—New bids solicited—Contract awarded for house sewer connections—Overseer of the Poor Adam Lind Reappointed—Bids for Fire House Bonds Asked For.

The Town Council held a regular meeting Monday night and all the members of the Council were in attendance. On motion of Councilman Farrand of the Finance Committee, a town note for \$10,000 was ordered issued in anticipation of taxes.

On motion of Chairman Farrand of the Fire Committee the Town Clerk was instructed to advertise for bids for the fire house bonds. The issue amounts to \$30,000, and the bids will be opened at the next regular meeting of the Council.

Chairman Harrison of the Franchise Committee requested that further action on the Essex Cross Railway franchise application be postponed until the next regular meeting of the Council. It is understood that the action of the Council in keeping this franchise application alive is for the purpose of collecting a claim due the town from the company.

Chairman Murray of the Poor Committee recommended the appointment of Adam Lind as Overseer of the Poor. The recommendation was confirmed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Chairman Fisher reported the result of an inspection of the roads in company with the Road Committee. The complaints made at a previous meeting of the Council, Mr. Fisher said, were investigated, and in the case of the Belleville avenue gutter which was severely criticised at the previous meeting of the Council, the Road Committee approved the plan carried out under the direction of Town Engineer Baechlin.

Councilman Green of the Sidewalk Committee reported the result of an investigation of the condition of Bloomfield avenue crosswalks, all of which were found in bad condition, particularly on the easterly side of the avenue. This was due to the digging up of the street for the Newark water pipe some time ago, and Mr. Green said that it was the duty of the pipe-line contractors or the Newark water officials to restore the crosswalks to a proper condition, and the clerk was instructed to convey to the Newark Water Board the demand of the Council that the crosswalks be repaired at once.

Chairman Farrand of the Sewer Committee reported a bad condition discovered in the Winsor place sewer. The sewer in that street was recently blocked, and the sewage matter having no outlet overflowed in the houses connected with the sewer. On investigation, Mr. Farrand said, it was discovered that at the point where the sewer and water main crossed, the sewer had been carried under the water main by a siphon construction and the sewage lodged in the siphon. That part of the sewer, he said, would have to be torn out and the sewer rebuilt on a different plan. The matter was referred to the Sewer Committee with power.

Chairman Harrison of the Water Committee, in reporting on the water question, made a recommendation that was adopted by the Council to the effect that the Town Attorney be authorized to tender to Dick & Robinson the water bonds bid for by that firm as soon as the bonds were received from the engraver, and also that the Town Attorney be clothed with power to attend to all further matters in connection with the water bonds.

The salary ordinance and the appropriation ordinance were introduced by title and passed first reading. The bond of William Douglas Moore of the Board of Assessors was approved, and also the bonds of Constables Smith, Baldwin, Fornoff, Hummel, Foster and Federal. An appropriation of \$100 was voted to William S. Pierson Post, G. A. R., for Memorial Day observance, and \$15 to the Bloomfield Battery for firing a salute on Memorial Day.

Martin J. Callahan was the only bidder for the work of making house sewer connections. His bid was \$12.50, and the contract was awarded to him.

The following bids for broken stone were submitted by the clerk: Wright & Lindale, \$1.85 per gross ton; Francisco Bros., \$1.75; Osborne & Marsellis, \$1.74. The bids were the subject of discussion.

Councilman Murray asked how the prices compared with those paid last year for broken stone. It was pointed out that the new bids were higher. Mr. Murray thought that if the amount of stone asked for had been larger, and

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A branch house of the widely known grocery firm of Charles M. Decker & Bros., of Orange, have purchased the business of Charles W. Martin in this town. See the advertisement announcing the purchase.—Advt.

Exempt Firemen's Convention.

Chief Engineer Bernard F. Higgins, Chief-elect James Y. Nicoll, former Chief T. Howell Johnson, Augustus O. Ashby, Charles A. Keyler, William L. Johnson, Frank C. Bucher, Frank Wiesner, Seymour P. Gilbert and Thomas Fawcett of this town, William E. Smith, John A. Brown, Peter J. Larkin, John H. Mylod, B. R. Jacobs, E. A. Moss and Arthur Russell of Glen Ridge, represented the Bloomfield and Glen Ridge Fire Departments at the State Exempt Firemen's annual convention in Englewood on Wednesday.

The convention took strong ground respecting tax exemption, now declared to be unconstitutional. After the business session the delegates were entertained at dinner at the armory, the local fire companies playing the part of hosts.

As a compliment to the visitors there was a parade in the afternoon of fire companies from adjacent towns led by Councilman W. O. Christophers, with six aides, mounted.

Among the companies taking part was the Arlington Fire Company.

The houses and stores along the line of march were profusely decorated with flags and bunting. The companies paraded in full uniform with their apparatus, with bands and drum corps.

The next convention of the Exempt Association will be held in Belleville.

The Exempt Firemen's Association of this town held its quarterly meeting Tuesday night. Superintendent of the Fire Alarm System A. F. Olsen was proposed for membership.

To Publish the Tax Duplicate.

A copy of the tax duplicate of the year 1903 has been made under the auspices and at the expense of some private citizens who are interested in the matter of equalization of assessments. It is understood that it is the intention to have several hundred copies of the duplicate printed for public distribution in order that the people may form some idea of the present situation in regard to property assessments. The wisdom of such a proceeding is, of course, doubtful, and some people have deprecated it. The copy of the duplicate, while it may be correct as to names and figures, will be at the best an imperfect one, as it will not include personal taxes and will not give any explanation of apparent inequalities in assessments. Conditions differ in many instances with respect to properties in the same street and block, and what might on paper appear as a gross inequality would on personal inspection of the properties show no inequality at all, but a difference in the amount of assessments amply justified by conditions. For instance, no street in town perhaps presents a greater lack of uniformity of assessments than Bloomfield avenue, and no street presents a greater variation in conditions that must necessarily be given consideration in fixing the value of property for proper assessment. It is this fact that makes a published copy of the duplicate a medium of conveying wrong conclusions to the minds of many people who will at once compare figures in the duplicate, but will not go to the trouble to ascertain if there are any justifiable reasons for the differences in figures.

School Savings Bank.

A savings bank was established in the Verona Public School last week. Monday Principal Frederick N. Brown made the first deposit in the Caldwell Bank in the name of the school bank.

Mr. Brown, who since he became principal has devoted much time to a consideration of this idea, has at last accomplished his purpose. Friday of each week when school is dismissed the children may deposit their savings with their respective teachers. The principal will deposit this sum each week in the Caldwell Bank. The pupil will have his account with his teacher, and when his deposits are sufficiently large he may have his account with the savings bank separate from that of the school bank, if he so desires.

This plan was conceived and was given a practical test in 1885. To-day it is practiced in 797 schools. There is no organization necessary, but each teacher is provided with a printed form furnished by the bank, in order to keep each scholar's account separate, but, although the money is deposited to the credit of the school, the Caldwell Bank will allow interest on the full amount only. If each scholar's account was allowed interest, it would be necessary for the teachers to take charge of each one.

PROTECT YOUR SECURITIES AND VALUABLE PAPERS AGAINST FIRE AND BURGLARS by renting a box in the Safe Deposit Vault of The Bloomfield National Bank. Boxes to rent at \$4.00 per year and upwards.—Advt.

Dressmaker.

Mrs. J. P. Gustavson of New York, latest French styles; moderate prices. 14 Baldwin Place, near Newark Avenue.—Advt.

The high class grocery firm of Charles M. Decker & Bros., of Orange, have purchased the business of Charles W. Martin in this town. See the advertisement announcing the purchase.—Advt.

SCHOOL APPROPRIATION

Fixed By the Board of Estimate Tuesday Night.—The Amount the Same as Last Year \$37,500.—An interesting Session of the Board at Which Public School Matters Were Discussed.

The Board of School Estimate met on Tuesday night and fixed the amount to be placed in the tax levy for school purposes at \$37,500, which is the same as appropriated for schools last year. The members of the Board of Estimate present at the meeting were George Fisher, Herbert C. Farrand and Jesse C. Green of the Town Council, and Thomas Oakes and Dr. W. R. Broughton of the Board of Education. Superintendent of Schools Wm. E. Chancellor and William A. Baldwin of the Board of Education were also present, and participated in the discussion, but had no vote in determining the fixing of the appropriation.

Mr. Fisher presided over the meeting. The estimates of the several committees of the Board of Education as to the amounts needed for the schools footed up \$41,000, an increase of \$3,500 over last year. The discussion was an animated one. The representatives of the School Board made a determined stand for the amount of money that the committee's estimates showed to be needed, while the Council members of the Board were equally firm in opposing any increase of the appropriation over that of last year. Statistics played an important part in the arguments, and Superintendent Chancellor and Councilman Green exercised their respective abilities along that line. Both are experts in that work, and they made it interesting for the others present.

The difference of opinion between the Councilmen and the members of the School Board as to the amount needed to carry on the schools was in no way prompted by prejudice or animus, and Tuesday night's debate was not marked by any disagreeable personalities or reflections.

The Councilmen assured the members of the School Board that it was their purpose to carry the same rigid policy that had been applied to schools, to every other department of government, and that no appropriations would be increased, but where it was possible they would be cut down.

In their contention Tuesday night against any increase in the school appropriation this year the Councilmen were fortified in their position by unofficial declaration on the part of more than one member of the School Board to the effect that there was no necessity for any increase, and that if the School Board was put to it they could get along with the same amount as last year. The same will apply to every other department of government. If strict economy is to be enforced, it can best be accomplished by withholding the funds. The present Town Council, it is understood, has an eye single to a lower tax rate, and is going to make strenuous efforts to bring it about.

The Borough Tax Rate.

There has been much speculation in Glen Ridge as to the probable tax rate in the borough this year. It is conceded on all sides that the rate will be increased, unless a large increase is made in assessed valuations. It is claimed that if valuations are allowed to remain unchanged the rate must of necessity be upwards of three per cent. In Glen Ridge, as in other places, there is a disposition manifested to blame the public school system for the high tax rate, on the ground that the expenditures for school are proportionally much higher than for other public purposes. From a common point of view it is a fly in the ointment. It is a fly in the ointment because it is a separate school system, separate fire departments and separate police systems. It would be an economy to both places if these branches of the public government were under one head. The separation of Glen Ridge from Bloomfield was a hard blow to the latter place at the time it occurred, but this town is recovering from the effects of the blow. On the other hand, it appears as if the borough was approaching a condition that will make a high rate perpetual.

Ascension Chapel Anniversary.

The third anniversary of the organization of the congregation of the Chapel of the Ascension was commemorated Sunday evening with special services in the chapel. The participating clergy were the Rev. E. A. White, the Rev. Louis LeVering, curate, and the Rev. Louis Shreve Osborne of Trinity Church, Newark. The latter preached the sermon, and in preliminary remarks congratulated the members of the chapel congregation on the successful work they had thus far carried on, and he predicted future success. The Rev. Mr. Osborne preached an interesting sermon.

Attention is called to the advertisement of Charles M. Decker & Bros., announcing the purchase of Charles W. Martin's business by that firm.—Advt.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY

Of the Organization of the Watessing Boys' Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association Celebrated Thursday Night—Interesting Report by Secretary W. W. Miller.

The third anniversary of the organization of the Watessing Boys' Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association was celebrated Thursday night in the chapel of Watessing M. E. Church. There was a large attendance, and all enjoyed the programme. The following historical review of the Association and its work was read by Secretary W. W. Miller:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: To-night we celebrate the third anniversary of the Watessing Branch, Boys' Department of the Young Men's Christian Association of New Jersey. This was organized April 26, 1901, by Mr. F. H. Long and his wife. The original number of members was five, being Mr. Long's Sunday-school class. The same first adopted was Boys' Christian Association, but was afterwards changed to the present name. Its object is threefold, being the advancement of the body, mind and spirit of the boys.

The meetings were first held at the home of Mr. Long, but in six months' time all the boys could not be accommodated. Then a room in this chapel was offered and accepted. Our meetings have been held every Saturday evening.

I. For the development of the body. We have an athletic committee. The first work done by it was to turn out a strong foot-ball team in 1902. The team won five out of the six games played. When the foot-ball season was over, the basketball teams, two in number, took its place, and both teams seldom met defeat. Then baseball took its turn, but owing to the difficulty in securing grounds few games were played. This year we have a good team, which hopes for a successful season. In the athletic work we have been handicapped by not having a gymnasium, which we hope to have in the near future.

II. For the development of the mind of the boys we have had outings and practical walks. Our outings have been very successful. We have visited Morristown, Bronx Park, Central Park, the New York Aquarium, Bible House, Navy Yard, and by the kindness of Postmaster Van Cott we were shown through the New York post-office. On our outing trip to Morristown we attended a meeting at the Y. M. C. A. building, and several members decided to lead a better life, one of them being the speaker.

Our practical talks have been very helpful, and were enjoyed by a large number of boys. Talks on "Banking," Mr. A. H. Baldwin, Vice-President of the National Newark Banking Company; "Law," Mr. C. F. Koehler, a prominent Newark lawyer; "Newspapers," G. E. Baldwin, New York Sun; "Ten Thousand Miles in Sixty Minutes," F. F. Langstroth of Rahway; "Washington, D. C.," O. B. Scott; "Life in the Slums," G. R. Honeymen; "History of Watessing," C. G. Ferguson; "Story Writing," Wm. Hamilton Osborne, author and lawyer; "Patriotism," Rev. P. G. Blight, Hon. James Walker and Edward Schwen, a lawyer of Newark; "Wall Street," C. T. Kilborn, a New York broker; "The Art of Steep Climbing Without Seafolds," Lewis Yerkes, the well-known Steeple Jack; "Fire Prevention and Fire Protection," H. L. Thowless, a Newark lawyer; "Life of an American Sailor during the War with Spain," Gunner's Mate Chas. Church of the battleship Kearsarge; "The Boxer War in China," Lieut. E. W. Hearn of Iowa.

III. The religious or spiritual life of the members. During the past three years we have had different speakers at nearly every meeting, the majority being Christian BUSINESS men. Our object has been to demonstrate that a man that makes the best success in this world is a CHRISTIAN. Among those who have given religious talks are the following: Revs. H. W. Lusk and C. W. Guilick of Newark; Rev. Henry Ward of Seattle, Wash.; Rev. Arthur Lucas of Paterson, and Messrs. J. M. Cobb, C. G. Hemmingway, C. W. Brower, Newark; John Elmerman, Orange; H. S. Parker, Paterson, and S. B. Frank, Jr., of Summit. The results have been very gratifying. Of our number eleven have joined churches, directly or indirectly through the instrumentality of the Association. One of our members takes charge of a Sunday-school class, beginning June 1. Some people have an idea that the Y. M. C. A. is an antagonist of the church, but this idea is wrong. The Y. M. C. A. needs the church, but the church in return needs the Y. M. C. A. Its object is to get the boy into the church. Again, it is not denominational. Our members represent five different churches, and our Association is open to all boys.

Our finances are in very good shape. A branch house of the widely known grocery firm of Charles M. Decker & Bros., will be opened here on June 1st. See Decker & Bros. advertisement.—Advt.

having a balance in the bank of \$44.04.

Friends, you have heard our report. You can judge for yourselves whether this Y. M. C. A. is a worthy cause; whether or not it is accomplishing its object. From five members it has grown to forty-three, an increase of thirty-eight. Our President, Mr. Long, leaves us in the near future. As organizer of this work he has done all in his power to make it a success. In losing him this community loses one of its best citizens, and the church one of its best members, but in losing him the member of this Association loses their best friend—a man who will do anything in his power for any boy, to have that boy live a better life.

Circumstances are such that we must close our meetings for the summer, as our privilege for occupying the room in this chapel has been revoked. But in the fall we hope to have other quarters, and our Association have a still larger measure of success.

Track Walker Dead.

Pasquale Vassallo, of 10 Bay street, Montclair, who was shot Sunday, April 24, in the Silver Lake section of Belleville, died in St. Michael's Hospital Monday morning. Giovanni Del Mora, of Factory street, Newark who is charged with the shooting, is in jail.

The victim was shot near St. Anthony's Church, in Franklin street, Silver Lake. The two Italians had been taking part in the preliminary festivities of the feast of St. Mark the Evangelist in the usual custom of a parade and fireworks. Vassallo and Del Mora met with several friends and quarreled.

Each struck the other. Vassallo used a stick, and dealt his opponent a hard blow in the face, after which he ran away. Del Mora followed, and drawing a revolver, fired three shots, so it is alleged.

After the shooting Del Mora escaped, but was taken into custody the following day in the Broad street station of the Central Railroad, as he was about to leave the city, by Detective Sergeants Tuite and Wiggins. He was held for the Grand Jury, pending the outcome of Vassallo's injuries.

Death of Miss Searing.

Miss Mary E. Searing, daughter of the late John Searing, died Monday afternoon of pneumonia at the residence of Dr. W. F. Harrison, 329 Broad street. Miss Searing was born in Newark in 1842. She attended the grammar, High and Normal schools and devoted her life largely to teaching. In 1882 she accepted a position as teacher and caretaker of the girls' department of the Newark City Home at Verona. She occupied this position until last May, when she resigned. Since that time she has made her home with Dr. Harrison's family.

Miss Searing contracted the cold that resulted in her death last Friday night, when riding in an open trolley car.

The funeral was held at Dr. Harrison's residence Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The interment took place at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

A Doubtful Story.

Residents of Linden avenue and adjoining streets are being solicited to sign a petition requesting the Town Council to grant an "Inn" License in the building on the corner of Linden and Glenwood avenues. There is no question but what the majority of the residents of Linden avenue do not want an inn or tavern or saloon of any kind located in any part of that street, but owing to certain circumstances in which a strong appeal to sympathy can be used, and by a singular representation of the case, some people may be led into signing the petition and afterward awake to a realization of their serious mistake. It is claimed, and the wife of the applicant is responsible for the assertion, that no intoxicants will be sold on the premises. If such is the case, where is the necessity of making application for a license and paying three hundred dollars for it? While no one will withhold genuine sympathy from any one who is the victim of misfortune, yet it is taking undue advantage of circumstances in endeavoring to mislead people into signing a petition for a license for what is termed a temperance inn. The very fact that a license is wanted, and that the applicant is willing to pay three hundred dollars for it, is evidence enough that the applicant intends to use the license to its fullest extent, and no one should be so blind as to fail to perceive the true inwardness of the application.

Epworth League Anniversary.

Bromley Chapter, Epworth League, celebrated the fourteenth anniversary of its organization Sunday, with special services in the Par. Methodist Church. The pulpit platform was decorated with potted palms and the stars and stripes. The pastor of the church preached a special sermon in the morning and in the evening Rev. Frank McDaniel of Orange preached.

Attention is called to the advertisement of Charles M. Decker & Bros., announcing the purchase of Charles W. Martin's business by that firm.—Advt.

TRACK ELEVATION.

LACKAWANNA RAILROAD COMPANY IS READY TO BEGIN WORK.

Councilmen and Railroad Officials Met in Conference Thursday Night—Company's Plans Submitted and Inspected—Overhead Bridges at Glenwood Avenue and Washington Street, and Depression at Orange Street and Watessing Avenue—New Stations to be Erected.

The Lackawanna Railroad Company is ready to begin the work of abolishing grade crossings along the line of its tracks in this town. The company officially notified the Town Council Monday night of its readiness to begin work, and requested a conference with the Councilmen. The conference was held Thursday night. Chief Engineer Bush of the railroad company submitted and explained the plans for the proposed changes.

The plans show an elevation of the tracks of about eight feet over the present grade of Glenwood avenue and Washington street, and both of these are to be depressed about four feet, giving a clearance of twelve feet between the roadbed and the railroad tracks. The station site is moved to a point about one-third of the distance from Glenwood avenue and Washington street, with stairs leading up to the platform at both ends. The main station will be at now, on the north side of the tracks, with a shelter house on the south side and connected with the station by a tunnel. The grade crossing for a freight siding across Glenwood avenue is retained as at present.

One of the important features of the proposed improvement, as shown on the map, is a new street from Conger to Washington street on the north side of the track. The plans show an ample and artistically laid out grounds at the Glenwood avenue approach to the new station. There is no question at all but what if the improvement is carried out as portrayed by the railroad company's engineer, the town will be much benefited by it. There is, however, a financial feature of considerable magnitude connected with the improvement which has not been approached as yet. The carrying out of the railroad company's plans will involve a large expenditure of money. The benefit resulting from the improvement will be mutual, and it is from that standpoint that the town will be asked to be a party to the development of the improvement. When this stage of the matter is reached the members of the Town Council will find their constituents holding conflicting views on the question of division of cost. There are people who regard the benefit from this proposed improvement to be of actual financial benefit to the town and think that there are justifiable grounds for the town's assuming a part of the cost. On the other hand there are many who regard the railroad company as the sole beneficiary, and they are stoutly opposed to any financial contribution on the part of the town towards the expense.

Assessment Commenced.

The Board of Assessors began the work of the annual assessment for the purposes of taxation yesterday. The new rule adopted in September by the State Board of Taxation provides for the assessment of land and the improvements that may be on it separately. This has been practiced in part in some sections of the State in the past, but not until the State authorities took it up was it considered for general application. It is the general opinion that it will make little difference in the assessments as a whole, although in some of the districts a change in totals may be noted. Where practiced in the past no mention has been made of it on the bills sent out or otherwise, the plan being followed simply to secure quick results in the computations of valuations. Hereafter it will be necessary to note on all tax bills the separate items of land and improvement tax.

The Gem of the Antilles.

Past Regent Charles E. McDowell, of Bloomfield—Glench, Royal Arcanum, gave a stereopticon lecture in Arcanum Hall, last night on "Cuba, the Gem of the Antilles." Mr. McDowell was for three years in charge of important public improvements under Major-General Wood. The lecture was given under the auspices of Bloomfield Council, and the occasion was known as "Ladies Night." The entertainment committee is composed of W. M. Hopler, Dr. S. G. Hamilton and E. E. Baldwin.

Cranberry Lake Opens May 30. Secret societies, pleasure clubs and organizations of all kinds contemplating outings for the summer should investigate Cranberry Lake before contracting for excursions elsewhere. For particulars ask any Lackawanna agent, or address T. W. Lee, general passenger agent, New York City, or Guy Adams, division passenger agent, Newark, N. J.—Advt.

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